

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Withdrawn) A door lock switch for locking or unlocking a door, and cutting off a current applied to electric driving units under operation when the door is opened forcibly.
2. (Withdrawn) A door lock switch comprising: a switch casing; a slider for making a hook on a door to be held at or released from the switch casing; a locking pin for making the slider locked or unlocked; a bimetal for moving the locking pin to a locking, or unlocking position of the slider; a switch to be closed when the locking pin moves to the locking position of the slider; and a safety lever for opening the switch when the door is opened forcibly.
3. (Withdrawn) The door lock switch as claimed in claim 2, wherein the safety lever has one end rotatably connected to the switch casing, and the other end extended so as to be in contact with the hook of the door, and includes a projection at a position opposite to the locking pin for pressing down the locking pin.
4. (Withdrawn) The door lock switch as claimed in claim 3, wherein the safety lever further includes a rotation delay portion provided to the other end of the safety lever for delaying rotation of the safety lever so that interference between the slider and the projection is prevented when the door is opened.
5. (Withdrawn) The door lock switch as claimed in claim 2, further comprising a return spring such that the safety lever has a restoring force in a direction the door is opened.
6. (Withdrawn) The door lock switch as claimed in claim 2, further comprising a heater for making thermal deformation of the bimetal.

7. (Withdrawn) The door lock switch as claimed in claim 2, wherein the switch includes; a fixed contact electrically connected to the electric driving units, and a movable contact electrically connected to a current supply portion for supplying a current to the electric driving units.
8. (Withdrawn) The door lock switch as claimed in claim 7, wherein the electric driving units are provided to an apparatus provided with the door lock switch, and units that use electricity as a power source.
9. (Withdrawn) The door lock switch as claimed in claim 2, further comprising a solenoid for deforming the bimetal to make the locking pin to move to the locking position or the unlocking position of the slider.
10. (Withdrawn) The door lock switch as claimed in claim 9, wherein the solenoid includes; a plunger for deforming the bimetal in reaction to a magnetic field, and a coil wound on the plunger for forming the magnetic field as the current is applied thereto.
11. (Withdrawn) A washing apparatus comprising: a body forming an exterior of the washing apparatus; an opening in a front surface of the body; a door for opening/closing the opening; a hook on the door; a switch casing on the body in correspondence to the hook on the door; a slider for making the hook on the door being locked or unlocked at the switch casing; a locking pin for locking or unlocking the slider; a bimetal for making the locking pin to move to a locking position or unlocking position of the slider; a switch to be closed when the locking pin moves to the locking position of the slider; and a safety lever for opening the switch when the door is opened forcibly.
12. (Withdrawn) The washing apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the safety lever has one end rotatably connected to the switch casing, and the other end extended so as to be in contact with the hook of the door, and includes a projection at a position opposite to the locking pin for pressing down the locking pin.

13. (Withdrawn) The washing apparatus as claimed in claim 12, wherein the safety lever further includes a rotation delay portion provided to the other end of the safety lever for delaying rotation of the safety lever so that interference between the slider and the projection is prevented when the door is opened.

14. (Withdrawn) The washing apparatus as claimed in claim 11, further comprising a return spring such that the safety lever has a restoring force in a direction the door is opened.

15. (Withdrawn) The washing apparatus as claimed in claim 6, further comprising a heater for making thermal deformation of the bimetal.

16. (Withdrawn) The washing apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the switch includes; a fixed contact electrically connected to the electric driving units, and a movable contact electrically connected to a current supply portion for supplying a current to the electric driving units.

17. (Withdrawn) The washing apparatus as claimed in claim 11, further comprising a solenoid for deforming the bimetal to make the locking pin to move to the locking position or the unlocking position of the slider.

18. (Withdrawn) The washing apparatus as claimed in claim 17, wherein the solenoid includes; a plunger for deforming the bimetal in reaction to a magnetic field, and a coil wound on the plunger for forming the magnetic field as the current is applied thereto.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling a washing apparatus having a body forming an exterior thereof, electric driving units provided to the body, an opening in a front surface of the body, a door for opening/closing the opening, a door lock comprising a casing connected to the body, a latch removably and securedly received within the casing, the latch connected to the door, switch for locking/unlocking the door, and a switch to interrupt power

flow to the electric drive units if the door lock is unlocked during an operating cycle of the washing apparatus, the switch within the casing~~in the door lock switch, the method comprising: for being closed when the door is locked at the door lock switch to supply a current to the electric driving units, comprising the step of: the door lock switch sensing forced opening of the door; and opening the switch to cut off the current to the electric driving units under operation when the forced opening of the door is sensed.~~

applying current to a heater to heat a bimetal component at a start of the operating cycle; closing, by thermal deformation of the bimetal component resulting from heat generated by the heater, the switch to permit power flow to the electric drive units;

moving, by thermal deformation of the bimetal component resulting from heat generated by the heater, a locking pin coupled to the bimetal component from an unlocked position to a locked position, wherein:

if the latch is forcibly removed from the casing during the operating cycle, a safety lever, coupled to the latch when the latch is secured in the casing, moves the locking pin from the locked position to the unlocked position and, by movement of the locking pin to the unlocked position, moves the bimetal component to open the switch to interrupt power flow to the electric drive units regardless of whether current continues to be applied to the heater.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Canceled)

23. (Canceled)

24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim [[21]] 20, wherein the electric driving units are devices which use electricity as power sources including at least one of, ~~such as~~ a motor for rotating a drum[[.]] and [[or]] a water supply valve for supplying water to a tub.

26. (Canceled)

27. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim [[26]] 20, further comprising moving, by operating a solenoid, the bimetal component so as ~~wherein the first step includes the step of locking the door to make the locking pin [[to]] move to the locked locking position of the slider by thermal deformation of the bimetal component and operation of the solenoid, to close the switch.~~

28. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 27, wherein ~~the thermal deformation of the bimetal is made by heat generated at a heat source, such as a heat, and the~~ solenoid acts toward a direction of the thermal deformation of the bimetal component as a current is applied to the solenoid ~~thereto~~.

29. (Canceled)

30. (Canceled)